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RULSDMK/DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
INFO RUEHGP/AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE IMMEDIATE 7252
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE 3385

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SIPDIS

SIPDIS SENSITIVE

STATE FOR EAP/MTS AND EEB/TRA/AN FAA FOR API-1/AFS-50/AGC-7 SINGAPORE FOR FAA REP TOKYO FOR FAA CARL STROMBOM

E.O. 12958: N/A TAGS: <u>EAIR</u> <u>ECON</u> <u>RP</u>

SUBJECT: PHILIPPINES CIVAIR: FAA REQUESTING IMMEDIATE FINAL DISCUSSION ON AVIATION SAFETY OVERSIGHT - UPDATE

REF: (A) STATE 149143, (B) MANILA 03536

- ¶1. On October 29, 2007 EconCouns separately met with Edward Pagunsan, Undersecretary of Department of Transportation and Communication (DOTC), Daniel Dimagiba, Executive Director of Air Transportation Office (ATO) and Ray Carandang, Assistant Secretary for American Affairs, Department of Foreign Affairs to discuss ramifications of FAA's summary report (ref A) and to confirm final discussions of this issue on November 29.
- 12. EconCouns also met with congressmen Junie Cua and Jack Duavit to urge the 14th Congress to pass a bill to create a new Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines (CAAP). EconCouns also met with Bernardino Sayo, Undersecretary of Presidential Legislative Liaison Office to discuss the pending legislation. A high-level public-private task force led by Transportation Secretary Leandro Mendoza and President of Philippine Airlines (PAL) Jaime Bautista has been formed to work on the issues outlined in FAA report. The task force invited us to join a meeting next week on remedies.

Kenney